

QUARTERLY NARRATIVE REPORTS FOR THE
SULLYS HILL WILDLIFE REFUGE
1937

55A338
1153/14 T88

Mr. G. J. ...
Mr. ...
Mr. ...
Miss Ruth

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

IN REPLY REFER TO

Quarterly and Calander
Yr. Report.

Sullys Hill Game Preserve,
Ft. Totten, N. Dakota,
Dec. 31, 1937.

Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This is the quarterly report and Calander Year report for the period ending Dec. 31, 1937. Below there is given the number of game animals that were on the Preserve before any were disposed of this fall, the number that were disposed of and those that were left at the end of the Calander Year:

	On Pres. end July.	Loss.	Disposed of:	Left on Pres. Dec. 31, 1937.
Buffalo	25	0	7	18 ✓
Elk	39	1	11	27 ✓
Deer	12	2	0	10 ✓
Beaver	5	0	0	5 ✓
	<u>81</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>60</u>

The buffalo that are left on the Preserve are all in good shape except one old cow that is rather thin due to old age and poor teeth it is supposed. It has been reported that the meat of one three year old bull buffalo which was not fit to sell was (the front quarters and neck given to the Indians for dog meat and the hind quarters to the WPA men to eat) given away. The hide was sold. The buffalo had been injured sometime before he was slaughtered by fighting it is supposed. The elk are all doing well. It was found that the cow elk were thinner (those that were slaughtered this fall) than they are as a rule during the fall. One cow elk was found dead due to some unknown cause this fall. The deer seem to be doing well. It is believed that there are more deer on the Preserve than we have been able to count. If more are counted in the future they will be reported. It is believed that the beaver are not doing so well because there has been such a small amount of water in the small lake this fall. They were not able to get as much food ready for winter as they did last fall. We have piled some small aspen poles near their winter home and will put corn down their holes from time to time during the winter. We will help them all that we can. The 18 Canada Geese are doing well in the bird yard and bird house.

There are but few fur bearing animals on the Preserve except raccoons ✓ which are rather numerous. There are a few skunks in the pasture, a very few weasels and possibly two pair of mink. It has been planned to trap some of the raccoon and skunk early next spring if they come down around the small lake or the buildings where the geese and wild ducks nest. All of these small animals are hunted and trapped by the Indians and also white hunters as soon as they go outside the Preserve area.

Many insectivorous birds stopped here a short time early last spring but not many of them nested here because there was not much moisture and not so much bird food for the same reason. But very few of the small birds stopped here long this fall because it was so dry. There were not many places that

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Saliva Hill Game Preserve,
Ft. Totten, N. Dakota,
Dec. 31, 1937.

Quarterly and Calendar
Report.

Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This is the quarterly report and calendar year report for the period ending Dec. 31, 1937. Below there is given the number of game animals that were on the preserve before any were disposed of this fall, the number that were disposed of and those that were left at the end of the calendar year:

On Pres. and July.	Loss.	Disposed of:	Left on Pres. Dec. 31, 1937.
83	0	7	18
36	1	11	27
12	2	0	10
2	0	0	2
91	3	18	60

The buffalo that are left on the preserve are all in good shape except one old cow that is rather thin due to old age and poor teeth it is supposed. It has been reported that the meat of one three year old bull buffalo which was not fit to sell was (the front quarters and neck given to the Indians for dog meat and the hind quarters to the WPA men to eat) given away. The hide was sold. The buffalo had been injured sometime before he was slaughtered by lightning it is supposed. The elk are all doing well. It was found that the cow elk were thinner (those that were slaughtered this fall) than they are as a rule during the fall. One cow elk was found dead due to some unknown cause this fall. The deer seem to be doing well. It is believed that there are more deer on the preserve than we have been able to count. It more are counted in the future they will be reported. It is believed that the beaver are not doing so well because there has been such a small amount of water in the small lake this fall. They were not able to get as much food ready for winter as they did last fall. We have piled some small sapen poles near their winter house and will put down their holes from time to time during the winter. We will help them all that we can. The 18 Canada Geese are doing well in the bird yard and bird house.

There are but few fur bearing animals on the preserve except raccoons which are rather numerous. There are a few skunks in the pasture, a very few weasels and possibly two pairs of mink. It has been planned to trap some of the raccoon and mink early next spring if they come down around the small lake or the buildings where the geese and wild ducks nest. All of these small animals are hunted by the Indians and also white hunters as soon as they go over the lake.

but birds stopped here as short time early last spring so much here because there was not much moisture and not the same reason. But very few of the small birds stopped here because it was so dry. There were not many places that



the migratory birds could even get a fresh drink of water let alone getting food to eat this fall. During the fall migration more geese stopped on the small lake in the picnic grounds than during any other fall or spring because there was grain on the shore, fresh water, protection and other geese that called them down to the lake. Many ducks stopped on the small lake for a short time during the migration period.

Frogs, snakes and salamanders seem to be most noticeable during falls and summers as well when we have plenty of moisture. During the rather dry summer and very dry fall there ^{were} very few of the said reptiles noticed on the Sullys Hill Area except there were many salamanders in the lake in the picnic grounds and some frogs along the shore.

There seems to have been plenty of grass for the game animals on this Preserve but the open part of the pasture where the animals usually graze was grazed as close to the ground as possible and the animals were feeding ~~were feeding~~ on the coarser grass in the shaded timber area. The elk have also helped to kill off many of the small bushes by brouseing them during the last few dry years. It was noticed that the cow elk were not fat this fall (those that were slaughtered) like they are as a rule during the fall. It is believed that the lack of grass that grows out in the open had something to do with their condition. The elk were in fair shape but were not so fat or some of them were not fat at all. There is more than enough hay on the Preserve to feed the animals during this winter if no more are disposed of. It has been planned to dispose of 9 elk and one buffalo alive yet this ^{winter} fall if there is any call for them. It is not best to capture elk in the corral after the end of January since the cows are apt to be injured from then on.

There have been but few of the migratory birds that stopped long on Sullys Hill Preserve Shore Waters of Devils Lake since the water in the said lake is strong with alkali. So no hunting was done along that part of the Preserve and a close watch has been kept and no hunting has been done on any other part of the Preserve during the past year to the best of my knowledge. The outside fence is patrolled about once a week and we are out in the pasture more or less for different reasons during each week.

During the last quarter of this Calander year, the foundation, frame work, sheeting and placing the roof boards on a cottage for an assistant have been completed by WPA men and other WPA men have done much work in the pasture removing stumps and trees for another fire trail in the ~~south~~ north east part of the Preserve. Most of the lumber used in the cottage so far has been received from the Lower Souris Refuge near Kramer, N. Dak.

About 65 tons of hay has been hauled from the lake bottom land and part of it stacked in the corral in the pasture and the rest of it stacked in the south part of the Preserve for winter feeding. As a rule the hay is stacked earlier in the fall or late summer but it was left as long as possible this year because it was so dry and we wished to take as little chance of having it burned up as possible. Also about 25 acres of the lake bottom land was seeded to mixed grass seed and some of it to rye to be cut for hay next summer.

the migratory birds could even get a fresh drink of water let alone getting food to eat this fall. During the fall migration more geese stopped on the small lake in the picnic grounds than during any other fall or spring because there was grain on the shore, fresh water, protection and other geese that called them down to the lake. Many ducks stopped on the small lake for a short time during the migration period.

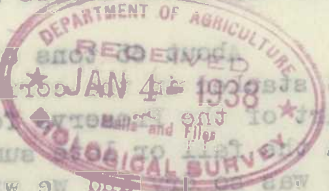
Frogs, snakes and salamanders seem to be most noticeable during falls and summers as well when we have had plenty of moisture. During the rather dry summer and very dry fall there were very few of the said reptiles noticed on the Suliva Hill Area except there were many salamanders in the lake in the picnic grounds and some frogs along the shore.

There seems to have been plenty of grass for the game animals on this Preserve but the open part of the pasture where the animals usually graze was grazed as close to the ground as possible and the animals were feeding on the coarser grass in the shaded timber area. The elk have also helped to kill off many of the small bushes by browsing them during the last few dry years. It was noticed that the cow elk were not fat this fall (those that were slaughtered) like they are as a rule during the fall. It is believed that the lack of grass that grows out in the open had something to do with their condition. The elk were in fair shape but were not so fat or some of them were not fat at all. There is more than enough hay on the Preserve to feed the animals during this winter if no more are disposed of. It has been planned to dispose of 2 elk and one buffalo alive yet this fall if there is any call for them. It is not best to capture elk in the corral after the end of January since the cows are apt to be injured from then on.

There have been but few of the migratory birds that stopped long on Suliva Hill Preserve Shore Waters of Devils Lake since the water in the said lake is strong with alkali. So no hunting was done along that part of the Preserve and a close watch has been kept and no hunting has been done on any other part of the Preserve during the past year to the best of my knowledge. The outside fence is patrolled about once a week and we are out in the pasture more or less for different reasons during each week.

During the last quarter of this calendar year, the foundation, frame work, sheeting and placing the roof boards on a cottage for an assistant have been completed by WPA men and other WPA men have done much work in the pasture removing stumps and trees for another fire trail in the ~~XXXX~~ north east part of the Preserve. Most of the lumber used in the cottage so far has been received from the ~~XXXX~~ Refuge near Kramer, N. Dak.

It has been hauled from the lake bottom land and part of it stacked in the pasture and the rest of it stacked in the south part of the Preserve for winter feeding. As a rule the hay is stacked earlier in the fall or summer but it was left as long as possible this year because it was so dry and we wished to take as little chance of having it burned up as possible. Also about 25 acres of the lake bottom land was seeded to mixed grass seed and some of it to rye to be cut for hay next summer.



Below has been given the number of cars and visitors that were to the Preserve during the calander year ending Dec. 31, 1937:

	Cars.	Visitors.
Jan., Feb. and Mar. '37.	4	75
April	17	222
May	557	2985
June	805	3766
July	1337	6143
August	843	4050
September	552	2677
October	173	1074
November	36	387
December	14	120
	<u>4 338</u>	<u>21 499</u>

counted sum

Of course most of the visitors were people that live within 40 miles of The Sullys Hill Preserve but there were noticed many cars here that had licenses on them from other states. Many of the visitors were taken over the WPA roads in the pasture where there was a better chance to see some of the elk and the buffalo.

The shop building has been wired for electricity, during December. One hundred bushels of ear corn and about 50 bushels of barley were received from the Souris River Bird Refuge for feeding purposes during this winter. Also about 200 bushels of mixed wheat and other grains were received from the Upper Mississippi Refuge for use on this Preserve for game birds and the game animals. Much care has been taken during the year and the quarter so there would be as little chance of fires getting started where they were not wanted as possible. The leaves were kept away from the buildings, no smoking was allowed in buildings or other places where there would be danger of ~~of~~ a fire getting started that would do damage and plowed fire guards were made around the corral and supply of hay.

With best wishes and greetings of the season, I am;

Very truly yours,

Wesley D. Parker

U. S. Game Management Agent.

Copy mailed to Omaha.

P. S. On Dec. 27th. one 1937 [✓] buck deer was found dead near the feed yard. He had been sick for about three days before he was found dead. On Dec. 28, 1937 a mature doe was found dead. These deer were placed in the warm shop building and on Dec. 29, 1937, Government Veterinarian, Mr. H. L. Kester came to the Preserve and we examined the 1937 buck. He had been dead about 4 days and Mr. Kester stated that he could find no cause why he should have died. The other one was not examined because she was still frozen and the Veterinarian did not believe that we could find anything from the second carcass since they both must have died from the same cause. A further report will be made concerning this loss and and a close watch will be kept of the deer.

Below has been given the number of cars and visitors that were to the Preserve during the calendar year ending Dec. 31, 1937:

Visitors.	Cars.	
75	4	Jan., Feb. and Mar. '37.
222	17	April
2885	557	May
3766	805	June
6143	1337	July
4050	843	August
2877	552	September
1074	175	October
387	36	November
120	14	December
21 499	4 338	

Of course most of the visitors were people that live within 40 miles of the Suljya Hill Preserve but there were noticed many cars here that had licenses on them from other states. Many of the visitors were taken over the W.A. roads in the pasture where there was a better chance to see some of the elk and the buffalo.

The shop building has been wired for electricity during December. One hundred bushels of ear corn and about 50 bushels of barley were received from the Gouais River Bird Refuge for feeding purposes during this winter. Also about 200 bushels of mixed wheat and other grains were received from the Upper Mississippi Refuge for use on this Preserve for game birds and the game animals. Much care has been taken during the year and the quarter so there would be as little chance of fires getting started where they were not wanted as possible. The leaves were kept away from the buildings, no smoking was allowed in buildings or other places where there would be danger of fire. A fire setting started that would do damage and plowed fire guards were made around the corral and supply of hay.

With best wishes and greetings of the season, I am;

Very truly yours,

U. S. Game Management Agent.

Copy mailed to Omaha.

one 1937 deer was found dead near the feed yard. He had been sick about three days before he was found dead. On Dec. 28, 1937 these deer were placed in the warm shop building. Government Veterinarian, Mr. H. L. Keister came to the building and examined the 1937 buck. He had been dead about 4 days and stated that he could find no cause why he should have died. The other one was not examined because she was still frozen and the Veterinarian did not believe that we could find anything from the second carcass since they both must have died from the same cause. A further report will be made concerning this loss and a close watch will be kept of the deer.

Miss Kent
Noted CP
CP
WEL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

IN REPLY REFER TO

Sullys Hill Game Preserve,
Ft. Totten, N. Dakota,
Sept. 30, 1937.

Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This is the quarterly report for the quarter ending September 30, 1937.

On Sept. 30, 1937, there are the following game animals on the Sullys Hill Preserve; 25 buffalo (two more calves have been born during the quarter making a total of six calves); 39 elk; 12 deer and 5 beaver. There are also the 18 Canada geese. The buffalo are all in good shape except one old cow that is not in as good condition as she should be for the fall period. The elk have been seen many times during the quarter but they are rather timid and do not remain long in one place when a person is near and they have not all been counted recently. One fawn was noticed a few weeks ago with its mother. After a few weeks the deer will be fed grain and we will have a better chance to count them all. The water in the small lake has become much lower during the last six weeks and it is not as good for the beaver as we would like to have it. As soon as they commence to store up food for winter, a load or two of small green poles will be placed near their house. We have already put about two loads of green aspen limbs in the water near their holes for their use during the last few weeks. The 18 Canada geese have been staying on and around the small lake. We have been scattering out grain along the shore of the small lake for the geese and the several hundreds of wild ducks that have been staying on the lake in the picnic grounds during most of September.

As near as is known, no predatory animals are on the Preserve. There are a number of raccoons on the Preserve, a few skunk, a few weasels and it is believed that there not over four mink. There are such a few of these animals that nothing has been done to reduce their numbers. The skunks do damage to birds and it has been planned to trap them if it is found where they are staying. It has been planned to capture a few of the raccoon alive and ship them to another government project (a letter concerning the same has been mailed to the Regional and Washington Offices) when it has been learned how to capture them without injuring them. Of course all of the fur animals are trapped and hunted by the Indians and white people as soon as they are outside the Preserve.

About three weeks ago the large insectivorous birds (such as robins and flickers) were noticed moving southward. During the last week many of the smaller birds have been noticed on their southward migration. Other small birds, such as the finches left this region about the first of Sept. or earlier. There were about 100 of each species noticed. About 500 ducks have been staying on the small lake in the picnic grounds much of the time during the last three weeks. It is believed that none of them were birds

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Sullys Hill Game Preserve,
P. Totten, N. Dakota,
Sept. 30, 1937.

Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This is the quarterly report for the quarter ending September 30, 1937.

On Sept. 30, 1937, there are the following game animals on the Sullys Hill Preserve: 25 buffalo (two more calves have been born during the quarter making a total of six calves); 32 elk; 12 deer and 5 beaver. There are also the 18 Canada geese. The buffalo are all in good shape except one old cow that is not in as good condition as she should be for the fall period. The elk have been seen many times during the quarter but they are rather timid and do not remain long in one place when a person is near and they have not all been counted recently. One lawn was noticed a few weeks ago with its mother. After a few weeks the deer will be fed grain and we will have a better chance to count them all. The water in the small lake has become much lower during the last six weeks and it is not as good for the beaver as we would like to have it. As soon as they commence to store up food for winter, a load or two of small green poles will be placed near their house. We have already put about two loads of green aspen limbs in the water near their holes for their use during the last few weeks. The 18 Canada geese have been staying on and around the small lake. We have been scattering out grain along the shore of the small lake for the geese and the several hundreds of wild ducks that have been staying on the lake in the picnic grounds during most of September.

As near as is known, no predatory animals are on the Preserve. There are a number of raccoons on the Preserve, a few skunk, a few weasels and it is believed that there are not over four mink. There are such a few of these animals that nothing has been done to reduce their numbers. The skunks do damage to birds and it has been planned to trap them if it is found where they are staying. It has been planned to capture a few of the raccoon alive and ship them to another Government project (a letter concerning the same has been mailed to the Regional and Washington Offices) when it has been learned how to capture them without injuring them. Of course all of the fur animals are trapped and hunted by the Indians and white people as soon as they are outside the Preserve.

About three weeks ago the large insectivorous birds (such as robins and flickers) were noticed moving southward. During the last week many of the smaller birds have been noticed on their southward migration. Other birds, such as the finches left this region about the first of Sept. Earlier. There were about 100 of each species noticed. About 300 ducks have been staying on the small lake in the picnic grounds much of the time during the last three weeks. It is believed that none of them were birds



from the north. During the last few days of the quarter, the weather has been very cool and snow has been reported about 100 miles north of here. It is believed that the northern water fowl will be here within two or three days.

As has been reported during the last few weeks, it has been very dry in this region during the last six weeks. We have noticed but few frogs here during the last three months, very few snakes and no salamanders except during the last few days of September when a little rain was received. After the showers, many small salamanders were noticed on the surface of the ground where it had become moist.

The grass dried up on most of the pasture area before we received any frost. There are more game animals in the big pasture now than should be kept over for another year. Due to the extra dry weather, many of the shrubs have been eaten on more than was best for them and some have died. The better grass on the higher places has been grazed close. It is believed that the grass on the hills is in better shape and more of it than there was a year ago this time. There is plenty of the coarser grass that grows in the timbered part of the Preserve.

The outside fence has been patrolled a number of times during the period (about once a week), frequent trips ~~xxx~~ ~~xxx~~ have been made over the trails in the pasture and on the highway that passes thru preserve land along the Devils Lake shore. For fire protection, the trails have been kept black, a wide area or strip has been kept black around the corrals, leaves and grass have been raked up and hauled away from around the buildings and no smoking has been allowed in the pasture or other places where a fire might get started that would do damage.

During part of the period five WPA men have been each working 100 hours on the Preserve. A concrete floor and approach was put in the shop building, the machine shed braced up and more space made up above to store lumber and other heavy articles, two windows put in the office and other smaller jobs. The men on WPA have been helping cut brush along the outside fence where snow drifts during the winter, helped clean up in the picnic grounds for fire protection and other jobs. Three men on maintenance have kept the roads in shape, worked with WPA men on the work done by the WPA men, put up about 30 tons of hay and other work.

All of the hay was put up that there was to put up for winter feeding for the animals. There was not so much hay to put up this summer as during the past on the Preserve meadow but it was of a better quality. There is more than enough hay stacked on the Preserve ~~not~~ than the animals will need during the coming winter. It is planned to always have plenty of hay if possible. During the last part of September some seeding has been done of brome grass seed and rye for forage next summer. The grass seed sown last spring did not come up good (possibly it was poor seed) or if it did come up good, the hoppers and dry weather killed off much of it. So it seemed advisable to sow more seed again this fall to be sure of hay in time next summer.

from the north. During the last few days of the quarter, the weather has been very cool and snow has been reported about 100 miles north of here. It is believed that the northern water fowl will be here within two or three days.

As has been reported during the last few weeks, it has been very dry in this region during the last six weeks. We have noticed but few frogs here during the last three months, very few snakes and no salamanders except during the last few days of September when a little rain was received. After the showers, many small salamanders were noticed on the surface of the ground where it had become moist.

The grass dried up on most of the pasture area before we received any frost. There are more game animals in the big pasture now than should be kept over for another year. Due to the extra dry weather, many of the animals have been eaten on more than was best for them and some have died. The better grass on the higher places has been grazed close. It is believed that the grass on the hills is in better shape and more of it than there was a year ago this time. There is plenty of the coarser grass that grows in the timbered part of the Preserve.

The outside fence has been patrolled a number of times during the period (about once a week), frequent trips have been made over the trails in the pasture and on the highway that passes thru Preserve land along the Devils Lake shore. For fire protection, the trails have been kept black, a wide area or strip has been kept black around the corrals, leaves and grass have been raked up and hauled away from around the buildings and no smoking has been allowed in the pasture or other places where a fire might get started that would do damage.

During part of the period five WPA men have been seen working 100 hours on the Preserve. A concrete floor and approach was put in the shop building, the machine shed braced up and more space made up above to store lumber and other heavy articles, two windows put in the office and other smaller jobs. The men on WPA have been helping cut brush along the outside fence where snow drifts during the winter, helped clean up in the picnic grounds for fire protection and other jobs. Three men on maintenance have kept the roads in shape, worked with WPA men on the work done by the WPA men, put up about 30 tons of hay and other work.

All of the hay was put up that there was to put up for winter feeding for the animals. There was not so much hay to put up this summer as during the past on the Preserve meadow but it was of a better quality. There is more than enough hay stacked on the Preserve now than the animals will need during the coming winter. It is planned to always have plenty of hay if possible. During the last part of September some seeding has been done of prairie grass seed and the for forage next summer. The grass seed sowd last spring did not come up good (possibly it was poor seed) or it did come up good, the hoppers and dry weather killed off much of it. So it seemed advisable to sow more seed again this fall to be sure of hay in time next summer.



There have been the following number of visitors and cars to the Preserve: July, 1337 cars and 6143 ~~cars~~ ^{visitors}; August, 843 cars and 4050 visitors and September there were 552 cars and 2677 visitors. They make a total of 2,732 cars and 12,870 ~~xx cars and~~ visitors that were to the Preserve during the quarter. A man and myself have been on duty during the quarter on Sundays and holidays (and other times when needed) looking after the visitors in the grounds, taking them into the pasture and etc., a man has been on duty counting visitors (on Sundays and holidays) and a woman in the rest room for women on Sundays and holidays. It took much extra care and work to see that no fires were started where they were not wanted especially during the last six weeks due to the very dry weather. Many BS-61- Sullys Hill Information and other useful pamphlets have been given to the public in the Rest Room mainly. Visitors are well pleased after they have visited this Preserve.

Many other small jobs that have not been mentioned have been done during the period. The signs were put in shape on the Preserve and especially along the part of the Preserve that takes in part of Devils Lake. One man and myself reposted the Chase Lake Bird Refuge and inspected the area and the Stump Lake Refuge will also be reposted before hunting season opens. The first shipment (of a number of such shipments) of grain for winter bird feeding, for water fowl feeding and for deer and government horses was received on Sept. 30, 1937. We have commenced to put out grain for the pheasants and other birds as well as the ducks and geese.

With the kindest of regards, I am;

Very truly yours,

Wesley D. Parker

U. S. Game Management Agent.



There have been the following number of visitors and cars to the Preserve: July, 1937 cars and 6143 visitors; August, 843 cars and 4080 visitors and September there were 552 cars and 2877 visitors. They make a total of 2,738 cars and 12,870 visitors that were to the Preserve during the quarter. A man and myself have been on duty during the quarter on Sundays and holidays (and other times when needed) looking after the visitors in the grounds, taking them into the pasture and etc., a man has been on duty counting visitors (on Sundays and holidays) and a woman in the rest room for women on Sundays and holidays. It took much extra care and work to see that no fires were started where they were not wanted especially during the last six weeks due to the very dry weather. Many 25-81-251111 will information and other useful pamphlets have been given to the public in the Rest Room mainly. Visitors are well pleased after they have visited this Preserve.

Many other small jobs that have not been mentioned have been done during the period. The signs were put in shape on the Preserve and especially along the part of the Preserve that takes in part of Devil's Lake. One man and myself reported the Chase Lake Bird Refuge and inspected the area and the Stamp Lake Refuge will also be reported before hunting season opens. The first shipment of a number of such shipments of grain for winter bird feeding, for waterfowl feeding and for deer and government horses was received on Sept. 30, 1937. We have commenced to put out grain for the pheasants and other birds as well as the ducks and geese.

With the kindest of regards, I am;

Very truly yours,

W. S. Game Management Agent

U. S. Game Management Agent.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

IN REPLY REFER TO

Sullys Hill Game Preserve,
Ft. Totten, N. Dakota,
June 30, 1937. *wal*

Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This is the report for the quarter ending June 30, 1937 and also for the fiscal year ending on the same date. Below is given the number of game animals on the Preserve at the end of the ~~calendar~~ year and other information:

	On Preserve last, fall.	1937 Loss.	Increase by birth.	Disposed of	Left on Preserve June 30, 1937.
Buffalo	22		4	3	23 ✓
Elk	31		10 Est.	2	39 ✓
Deer	16	5	unknown		11 ✓
Beaver	5	0	unknown		5 ✓
	<u>74</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>78</u>

The 23 buffalo all are very nice animals and are in extra good shape. Three 2½ year old bull buffalos were disposed of for meat last winter. We were not able to dispose of any of them alive for Preserves or parks. Of the 31 elk only two were disposed of. One cow elk was donated for a North Dakota park and one old cow with a lump on her jaw was shot and the carcass buried. Five deer were lost. One of the animals injured itself by jumping against the fence or some other object. The four other deer died of some form of lung trouble. It is believed that they become weak due to eating sweet clover and then died of some form of pneumonia. One carcass was examined at the State Experimental Station at Fargo, N. Dak. Next winter it has been planned to feed the deer grain twice a day and little or no sweet clover. The clover hay that they eat last winter was very good hay, free from mold and hay like it, said to be good feed by the State Experimental Station.

The beaver built a house on the shore of the small lake last fall and seemed to do well during the winter. Not much has been seen of them this spring but they have been busy building dams. About three miles east of the Preserve a mature male beaver was found dead about the middle of June at the edge of an alkali lake. It is believed that the water caused his death. As there are no beaver within many miles of this Preserve except at the Sullys Hill Preserve, it is believed that the animal wandered away from this Preserve looking for other beaver. The number of beaver has not been changed because there may be young ones on the Preserve now. 18 old Canada Geese are on the small lake in the picnic grounds. Two of them pairs made nests in the bird yard this spring but a racoon it is believed broke up the eggs and eat them. *captured* *sum*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Salisbury Hill Game Preserve,
W. Totten, N. Dakota,
June 30, 1937.

Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This is the report for the quarter ending June 30, 1937 and also for the fiscal year ending on the same date. Below is given the number of animals on the preserve at the end of the previous year and other information:

On Preserve last fall.	1937 Increase or loss.	by birth.	Disposed of.	Left on Preserve June 30, 1937.
Buffalo 22	4		3	23
Elk 31	10	Est.	2	39
Deer 18	5	unknown		11
Beaver 8	0	unknown		8
	14		5	78

The 22 buffalo all are very nice animals and are in extra good shape. Three 2½ year old buffalo were disposed of for meat last winter. We were not able to dispose of any of them alive for Preserves or parks. Of the 31 elk only two were disposed of. One cow elk was donated for a North Dakota park and one old cow with a lump on her jaw was shot and the carcass buried. Five deer were lost. One of the animals injured itself by jumping against the fence or some other object. The four other deer died of some form of lung trouble. It is believed that they became weak due to eating sweet clover and then died of some form of pneumonia. One carcass was examined at the State Experimental Station at Fargo, N. Dak. Next winter it has been planned to feed the deer grain twice a day and little or no sweet clover. The clover hay that they eat last winter was very good but free from mold and hay like it is said to be good feed by the State Experimental Station.

The beaver built a house on the shore of the small lake last fall and seemed to do well during the winter. Not much has been seen of them this spring but they have been busy building dams. About three miles east of the preserve a mature male beaver was found dead about the middle of June at the edge of a small lake. It is believed that the water caused his death. As there are no beaver within many miles of this preserve except at the Salisbury Hill Preserve, it is believed that the animal wandered away from this preserve looking for other beaver. The number of beaver has not been counted because there may be young ones on the preserve now. In old Canada the small lake in the picnic grounds. Two of the beaver made a dam and this spring but a weevil it is believed broke up



There are no predatory animals on the Preserve at this time. In the past coyotes have come under the fence at times but the holes ^{where} ~~are~~ stopped when found and if necessary poison bait is put out for them. A few dogs were shot during the past year that kept coming into the Preserve. Raccoons at times cause some damage to nesting birds and will in time (especially during the spring) have to be thinned out some.

This spring and summer insectivorous birds (both in the spring migration and those remaining to nest during the summer) are more numerous than during the last few years it is believed due to more moisture having been received in this immediate region and more food being available for them. But few waterfowl remained here long tho. More geese were noticed moving northward this spring than during last spring a year ago it is believed. The number of ducks noticed did not seem to be much on the increase tho over recent years. Of course most of the waterfowl flew high and on to the north where there is more water. Very few bodies of fresh water can be found in this whole Sullys Hill Region.

A great many salamanders are in the small lake. Frogs are plentiful around the shore of the small lake and on the lower wet land. There are a few striped grass snakes in this region. We have no poisonous snakes in this region.

The pasture for grazing is in very good shape on this Preserve now. ^{and small trees} The shrubs, such as June berry, choke-cherry, small oak second growth and small aspen trees have been kept rather close cropped tho. These trees and shrubs have not suffered so much from the browsing as from the dry weather during the last three years. Many of the older June berry bushes have died. It will be well to dispose of some of the animals this coming winter as has been indicated by a recent letter to the Washington Office. The upland grasses on the south hill slopes have died off in places due to the drouth. It is believed they will cover the partly bare slopes again if we have plenty of moisture.

No hunting has been done on the Preserve during the past year. It is a seldom thing that any person climbs over the fence and wanders around the pasture. We know this to be true by watching the roads for tracks during the summer where it is dusty or muddy and watching the snow covered area along the fence during the winter. About five miles of new road has been constructed thru the pasture to act as a fire guard and during the dry part of last summer we had barrels of water (with a bunch of sacks near each barrel) placed at convenient places along the new road. The men were not allowed to smoke in the pasture during the dry time last summer. Also much brush and leaves were cleaned out around the barn and in the picnic grounds. The leaves and other things that might be set fire are kept away from the buildings. Dry branches are gathered and piled up near the fire places in the picnic grounds for use. Also of an evening after visitors have been in the picnic grounds, some one goes around and sees that there is no danger of any fire that might be left doing any damage especially if the season is dry.

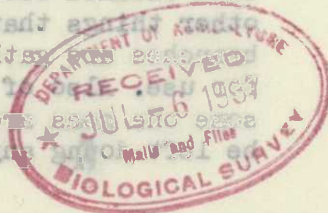
There are no predatory animals on the Preserve at this time. In the past coyotes have come under the fence at times but the holes ~~are~~ stopped when found and if necessary poison bait is put out for them. A few dogs were shot during the past year that kept coming into the Preserve. Raccoons at times cause some damage to nesting birds and will in time (especially during the spring) have to be thinned out some.

This spring and summer insectivorous birds (both in the spring migration and those remaining to nest during the summer) are more numerous than during the last few years it is believed due to more moisture having been received in this immediate region and more food being available for them. But few waterfowl remained here long this year. More geese were noticed moving northward this spring than during last spring a year ago it is believed. The number of ducks noticed did not seem to be much on the increase the over recent years. Of course most of the waterfowl flew high and on to the north where there is more water. Very few bodies of fresh water can be found in this whole Suljva Hill Region.

A great many salamanders are in the small lake. Frogs are plentiful around the shore of the small lake and on the lower wet land. There are a few striped grass snakes in this region. We have no poisonous snakes in this region.

The pasture for grazing is in very good shape on this Preserve now. The shrubs such as June berry, choke-cherry, small oak second growth and small aspen trees have been kept rather close cropped this year. These trees and shrubs have not suffered so much from the browsing as from the dry weather during the last three years. Many of the older June berry bushes have died. It will be well to dispose of some of the animals this coming winter as has been indicated by a recent letter to the Washington Office. The upland grasses on the south hill slopes have died off in places due to the drought. It is believed they will cover the partly bare slopes again if we have plenty of moisture.

No hunting has been done on the Preserve during the past year. It is a seldom thing that any person climbs over the fence and wanders around the pasture. We know this to be true by watching the roads for tracks during the summer where it is dusty or muddy and watching the snow covered areas along the fence during the winter. About five miles of new road has been constructed thru the pasture to act as a fire guard and during the dry part of last summer we had barrels of water (with a bunch of snakes near each barrel) placed at convenient places along the new road. The men were not allowed to smoke in the pasture during the dry time last summer. Also much brush and leaves were cleaned out around the barn and in the picnic grounds. The leaves and dry things that might be set fire are kept away from the buildings. Dry places are gathered and piled up near the fire places in the picnic grounds. An evening after visitors have been in the picnic grounds, some one comes around and sees that there is no danger of any fire that might do any damage especially if the season is dry.



Since August 10, 1936 until the close of June 16, 1937, from about 10 to around 43 men were working on the Preserve. Of course the men only worked 100 hours per month. A number of teams were used at times, a 60 catipillar tractor and large blade and other equipment. About five miles of road were ~~gravelled~~ built up hill and down hill in the buffalo and elk pasture; about four miles of the road was graveled, some small dams were built; much cleaning up was done around the barn and a shelter building where there was much brush growing; a very good cattle guard entrance was installed at the front entrance; a fence was built across a wet corner of the pasture (fence on dry land); pull out some trees on hay land and other smaller jobs. Also some work was done making a room in the attic of agent's house and a new shop building was almost completed.

About 60 acres of lake bottom land has been sown to tame hay and about 50 tons of very good forage for animals was stacked from it during the summer of 1936. At the close of June 1937 about 20 tons of hay have already been stacked and more will be put up later as it is ready to stack. For the last few years it has not been necessary to purchase any hay for the animals on this Preserve.

During the Fiscal year ending June 30, 1937 there have been the following number of visitors to the Sullys Hill Preserve:

	Cars.	Visitors.
July 1936	880	4065
August	812	3988
September	299	1518
October	54	707
November	15	257
December	9	38
Jan., Feb. & Mar. '37-	4	75
April	17	222
May	557	2985
June	<u>895</u>	<u>3766</u>
	3,452	17,621

More and more of the better class of visitors are coming to the Preserve to spend some time out in the open air, have a picnic, visit with their friends, drive over the roads in the pasture and rest after church on Sundays. The clean picnic grounds, tables, pure water and shelter buildings make it convenient so that visitors wish to picnic here. Almost all of the schools within twenty miles of here have their picnics here at the close of their school term.

Besides what has been mentioned and under maintenance, most of the buildings that needed to be painted have been painted this spring, the roads have been bladed, work done on the shop building, grass seed and grain seeded for hay and other general maintenance work.

With the kindest of regards, I am;

Very truly yours,

Wesley D. Parker.
U. S. Game Management Agent.

Since August 10, 1936 until the close of June 16, 1937, from about 10 to around 45 men were working on the Preserve. Of course the men only worked 100 hours per month. A number of teams were used at times, a 60 catipillar tractor and large blade and other equipment. About five miles of road were gravelled; some small dams were built; much clearing was done around the barn and a shelter building where there was much brush growing; a very good cattle guard entrance was installed at the front entrance; a fence was built across a wet corner of the pasture (fence on dry land); built out some trees on hay land and other smaller jobs. Also some work was done making a room in the attic of agent's house and a new shop building was almost completed.

About 60 acres of lake bottom land has been sown to tame hay and about 50 tons of very good forage for animals was stacked from it during the summer of 1936. At the close of June 1937 about 20 tons of hay have already been stacked and more will be put up later as it is ready to stack. For the last few years it has not been necessary to purchase any hay for the animals on this Preserve.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937 there have been the following number of visitors to the Suljva Hill Preserve:

Visitors.	Cars.	
4065	880	July 1936
3988	812	August
1518	299	September
707	54	October
257	15	November
38	8	December
75	4	Jan., Feb. & Mar. '37-
222	17	April
2985	557	May
<u>3786</u>	<u>305</u>	June
17 831	3,452	

More and more of the better class of visitors are coming to the Preserve to spend some time out in the open air, have a picnic, visit with their friends, drive over the roads in the pasture and rest after church on Sundays. The clean picnic grounds, tables, pure water and shelter buildings make it convenient so that visitors wish to picnic here. Almost all of the schools within twenty miles of here have their picnics here at the close of their school term.

What has been mentioned and under maintenance, most of the buildings needed to be painted have been painted this spring, the roads have been graded, work done on the shop building, grass seed and grain seeded. I have had other general maintenance work.

The kindest of regards, I am;

Very truly yours,

U. S. Game Management Agent.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

IN REPLY REFER TO

Sullys Hill Game Preserve,
Ft. Totten, N. Dakota,
May 15, 1937.

Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Letter R-Sullys Hill-Reports dated May 10, 1937 was received on the evening of May 14, 1937 and the said report for the third quarter has been made out on May 15th.

Much extra work had to be done at the end of March due to many new WPA men coming to work and for some cause the making out of the 3rd quarterly report was overlooked. The report is attached to this letter. It is regretted that it is late being mailed to the office.

With the kindest of regards, I am;

Very truly yours,

Wesley D. Parker

U. S. Game Management Agent.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

IN REPLY REFER TO

Snijls Hill Game Preserve,
W. Totten, N. Dakota,
May 13, 1937.

Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Letter R-Snijls Hill-Reports dated May 10, 1937 was received on
the evening of May 14, 1937 and the said report for the third quarter
has been made out on May 15th.

Much extra work had to be done at the end of March due to many new
WPA men coming to work and for some cause the making out of the 2nd quarterly
report was overlooked. The report is attached to this letter. It is regretted
that it is late being mailed to the office.

With the kindest of regards, I am;

Very truly yours,

W. B. D. Parker

U. S. Game Management Agent.



Mr. Crouch
Miss also

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

IN REPLY REFER TO

Sullys Hill Preserve,
Ft. Totten, N. Dakota,
Mar. 31, 1937.

Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The buffalo remained in very good condition during the three months. One ²/₃ year old bull buffalo was slaughtered and sold for meat. The other 19 animals left on the Preserve are very nice animals except one old cow that was a little thin and the old bull buffalo. One cow elk was donated to the North Dakota State Park at Wahpeton and one cow elk that had a large lump on one jaw and was thin, was shot and buried. The other 29 elk left on the Preserve were in good shape at the close of the month. 18 Canada Geese were still doing well on the Preserve at the end of the quarter. Three deer died during the period. One must have jumped against the fence or some other object or possibly its back was injured by another deer. No injured place could be found on its body. A little hair had been lost on the back. The other two deer died due to some lung trouble. One carcass was examined at the Preserve and the lung cavity was found to be full or almost so of blood and a yellowish liquid. The lungs were very dark and drawed up to only about a quarter of the normal size. The third carcass was shipped to the Veterinarian Department at the Agricultural College at Fargo, N. Dak. where the same was examined and the report of the examination was the same as what I had found to be wrong with the carcass that was examined here at the Sullys Hill Preserve.

We have lost deer at this Preserve only last winter a year ago and this winter. During both winters the deer have had plenty of very good sweet clover with some alfalfa to pick in. They were fed no grain. They seemed to do well and was in good shape until all at once some were lost as has been reported. Before the past two winters the deer have been fed a little over a half pint (of clean ground oats and barley or clean whole oats) each night and morning during the colder weather when they did come up to the feed yard. So it looks very much as if the hay had weakened the deer and then they had died due to other causes due to the feeding on the said hay. It has been planned to feed the deer grain of a winter here after with but little of the said hay.

beaver

As near as is known, the ~~beaver~~ are doing well and none have been lost during the winter. They have not been seen since late last summer but they have been heard splashing in the water and have eaten the bark off of the aspen poles piled near their house for their winter use. As was reported at the time, it was noticed during the winter that a mink was making his home in the side of the beaver house. His trail was noticed going into the house and last fall I saw a mink in the edge of the house.

There are about four mink on the Preserve, about a dozen weasels and possibly about 20 racoons. As near as is known no coyotes have been on the Preserve during the quarter. There are a few coyotes outside the Preserve fence. Poison was put out for Indian dogs that kept getting inside the fence. The racoons are the most numerous. They go outside the Preserve but seem to come back inside the Preserve to their dens where they are not bothered. This looks to be the case as shown by their trails in the snow the last of the quarter. All of the ~~squirrel~~ animals are hunted and trapped as soon as they go outside the Preserve area. There are a few muskrats along the shore of the small lake in the picnic grounds.

During the last few days of March it was reported that geese and ducks were noticed in this region but I did not see them. They did not stop in this immediate vicinity. Nuthatches, chickadees, wood-peckers were here all winter and tallow was put out for them. A few blue-jays were here at times during the winter. We still have a few great horned owls here and they could be heard at times of a night calling.

The range in this area was all covered with snow during the period. The animals were able to get but little grass. The elk did browse some tho. It was necessary to put out much hay for them especially during Jan. and February. It is believed that the elk and buffalo were able to get some old grass during March. We had plenty of hay and are carrying over about 60 tons of hay for next winter. It is well stacked and should keep in good shape, for next winter. Due to the dry weather it looks much as if we would not be able to raise so much hay another summer.

No law violations have been made on the Preserve area as far as is known. There is little or no danger of fire in this region during the winter season when the snow is on the land. No smoking is allowed in any of the buildings and if for any reason it is necessary to have a fire near any of them, much care is taken. Care is taken to see how the ashes are disposed of so there is no danger of a fire from that source.

About nine men on Biological Survey WPA work were employed at the Preserve during the quarter. These men worked along the new road mainly burning brush that could not be burned last fall when it was so dry and wind blowing much of the time. Some of the WPA men helped do the maintenance work such ~~as~~ and removing snow from along the fence, helping patrol the outside fence and other work.

Four cars and 75 visitors were to the Preserve during the quarter. During most of the time the snow was deep and the weather was extremely cold ~~during about half of the time~~ and visitors do not visit places under those conditions unless it is absolutely necessary or on a nice day now and then.

Many loads of down dead wood and wood that was removed from the road way were given away to people in need. The Agent kept time of the WPA men during the winter (this quarter) since there were just a few of them and it did not seem best to have a foreman for such a small number. Also about 40 to 50 bushels of grain were put out for the upland game birds in places where there were birds and birds could get at the grain. That is the grain was put out at places where the snow did not cover up the grain. I was able to save many hundreds of birds from starving with this grain because there was but little of the food for the birds to get at due to the drouth. There were very few straw stacks for them to scratch in, very few dried berries on the bushes and seeds on the weeds and grasses were also scarce and then the snow covered up much of the little food that there was for the upland game birds. This made it a hard job for the birds to survive the cold weather.

With the kindest of regards, I am;

Very truly yours,

Wesley D. Parker

U. S. Game Management Agent.

*copy mailed
Mr. Laythe.*



Many loads of down dead wood and wood that was removed from the road
way were given away to people in need. The Agent kept time of the WPA men
during the winter (this quarter) since there were just a few of them and it
did not seem best to have a foreman for such a small number. Also about 40
to 50 bushels of grain were put out for the upland game birds in places where
there were birds and birds could get at the grain. That is the grain was put
out at places where the snow did not cover up the grain. I was able to save
many hundreds of birds from starving with this grain because there was but a
little of the food for the birds to get at due to the growth. There were
very few straw stacks for them to scratch in, very few dried berries on the
bushes and seeds on the weeds and grasses were also scarce and then the
snow covered up much of the little food that there was for the upland game
birds. This made it a hard job for the birds to survive the cold weather.

With the kindest of regards, I am;

Very truly yours,

Wm. D. Barker

U. S. Game Management Agent.

